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sociate of the American Ornithologists' Union. With Thirty-two Mounted Plates. London. Weatherby & Co., 326 High Holborn W. C. 1911. Small 4to. 54 pp. 32 plates. For sale by Brentano and by Forest and Stream Pub. Co.

The studies upon which this volume are based were largely conducted on Gardiner's Island, where this regal bird is not only a familiar object but unwary as well. The value of the studies is greatly enhanced by the admirable half-tone prints accompanying, and their manner of arrangement. Studies of this sort are needed for practically all of our birds. We welcome it as a contribution to our knowledge of one of our most interesting birds of prey.

L. J.

University of California Publications in Zoölogy. There are before us and unacknowledged a number of contributions to ornithological literature which have been issued under this caption. They are here presented in the order of their publication.

Vol. 5, No. 5, pp. 275-281. 1 text-figure. December 31, 1909. A New Cowbird of the Genus *Molothrus* with a note on the probable genetic relationships of the North American forms. By Joseph Grinnell. The new form is described as *Molothrus ater artemisiae*, Nevada Cowbird. The range is given as practically coincident with the range of the sage-brush (*Artemisia tridentata*)—"Upper Sonoran and Transition zones of the Great Basin region of the western United States."

Vol. 5, Nos. 8, 9, and 10, pp. 307-320, Pl. 30. February 21, 1910. Two Heretofore Unnamed Wrens of the Genus *Thryomanes*. By Joseph Grinnell. The new forms being described as *Thryomanes bewicki mariensis*, Nicasion Wren, whose range is "The humid coast belt north of the Golden Gate and San Francisco Bay, in Marin and Sonoma Counties"; and *Thryomanes bewicki catalinae*, Catalina Island Wren, of Santa Catalina Island.

The Savannah Sparrow of the Great Basin. By Joseph Grinnell. This is described as a new species under the name *Passerculus sandwichensis nevadensis*, Nevada Savana Sparrow.

The third number is concerned with "A Second Record of the Spotted Bat (*Euderma maculatum*) for California"; also by Joseph Grinnell.

Vol. 5, Nos. 11 and 12, pp. 321-428, Pls. 31-34, 9 text figs. March 1910.

Mammals of the 1908 Alexander Alaska Expedition, with descriptions of the localities visited and notes on the flora of the Prince William Sound Region. By Edmund Heller.

Birds of the 1908 Alexander Alaska Expedition, with a note on the avifaunal relationships of the Prince William Sound District. By Joseph Grinnell. The Prince William Sound Region is the scene of the studies upon which this paper is based. Included among the 89 forms listed as having been found are six new sub-species as follows: *Canachites canadensis atratus*, Valdez Spruce Grouse; *Lagopus rupestris kelloggae*, Montague Rock Ptarmigan; *Ceryl alcyon caurina*, Northwestern Belted Kingfisher, *Dryobates pubescens glacialis*, Valdez Downy Woodpecker; *Passerella iliaca sinuosa*, Valdez Fox Sparrow; *Penthestes rufescens vivax*, Valdez Chestnut-sided Chickadee. Copious notes accompany the descriptions of the new sub-species and the mention of each other species. The paper closes with a discussion of the "Composition of the Prince William Sound Avafauna, Discussion of Its Origin," and of "Melanism in the Endemic Species."

Vol. 6, No. 13, pp. 285-312. December 28, 1910. Significance of White Markings in the Birds of the Order Passeriformes. By Henry Chester Tracy. This paper was reviewed on page 137 of Vol. XXIII, The Wilson Bulletin.

Vol. 7, No. 3, pp. 173-177. February 18, 1911. An apparent Hybrid in the Genus *Dendroica*. By Walter P. Taylor. The probably hybrid described here is between *Dendroica coronata* and *D. auduboni*.

Vol. 7, No. 4, pp. 179-195. February 18, 1911. The Linnet of the Hawaiian Islands; A Problem in Speciation. By Joseph Grinnell. The case here discussed is one of the reduction of the intensity of color from crimson through orange to yellow, due, the author concluded, to a change in habitat and to insularity, the insularity doubtless resulting in inbreeding and consequent "deficiency in capacity" to produce the more intense color.

Vol. 7, No. 5, pp. 197, 199. February 18, 1911. The Modesto Song Sparrow. By Joseph Grinnell. *Melospiza melodia mailliardi*. A new subspecies described.

Vol. 7, No. 8, pp. 309-311. August 24, 1911. Description of a New Spotted Towhee from the Great Basin. By Joseph Grinnell. *Pipilo maculatus curtatus*, Nevada Towhee. Another new sub-species described.

Vol. 7, No. 9, pp. 313-318. Description of a New Hairy Wood pecker from South-eastern Alaska. By H. S. Swarth. *Dryobates villosus sitkensis*, Sitka Hairy Woodpecker. Range: South-eastern Alaska.

Vol. 7, No. 10, pp. 319, 436, pls. 7-12. February 14, 1912. Field Notes on Amphibians, Reptiles and Birds of Northern Humboldt County, Nevada. By Walter P. Taylor. Four Amphibians, eleven

Reptiles and 103 Birds are here recorded, many of them accompanied with copious annotations. We notice with some surprise that the word America preceeds Coot, Barn Swallow and also Magpie. In the last case it seems more defensible in order to distinguish it from the Yellow-billed Magpie. We also note the use of the word Eastern in reference to *Tyrannus tyrannus*, which seems to us entirely proper when *Tyrannus verticalis* is called Western Kingbird.

Vol. 10, No. 1, pp. 1-124, pls. 1-14. February 13, 1912. Report on collection of Birds and Mammals from Vancouver Island. By Harry S. Swarth. The collection was made by the author with the assistance of Mr. E. Despard. The collecting began on April 24 and closed on September 28. 111 birds and 20 mammals are here recorded, accompanied by interesting and valuable annotations. Mr. Swarth is an adept at making collections and carrying away facts relating to the lives of animals.

This series of papers from the Zoölogical department of the University of California indicates in an incomplete and feeble way what it is doing toward securing an accurate picture of the animal life of that incomparable coast region. If every state university was as wide awake to its possibilities in the same line of work the time would not be long until we would have at hand the preliminary surveys of the animals of the whole nation as a basis for the more intensive studies which we may see just ahead.

L. J.

SMITHSONIAN MISCELLANEOUS COLLECTIONS. Volume 56.

No. 25. Descriptions of Seven New African Grass-Warblers of the Genus *Cisticola*. By Edgar A. Mearns, Associate in Zoölogy, U. S. National Museum. "This paper is the fifteenth dealing with the results of the Smithsonian African Expedition, under the direction of Col. Theodore Roosevelt." The paper is concerned only with descriptions of the new forms, two of which are full species.

No. 27. A New Kingfisher from Panama. By E. A. Goldman. This new form is appropriately named *Ceryle americana isthmica*, since the type is from Rio Indio (near Gatun), Canal Zone, Panama.

No. 28. Description of a New Species of Sun-bird, *Helionympha raineyi*, from British East Africa. By Edgar A. Mearns.

No. 30. A New Subspecies of Ptarmigan from the Aleutian Islands. By A. C. Bent. This is described as *Lagopus rupestris sanfordi*, Tanaga Ptarmigan collected at Tanaga Island, Alaska during Mr. Bent's 1911 expedition to the Aleutian Islands.

No. 32. Notes On Birds Observed During a Brief Visit to the